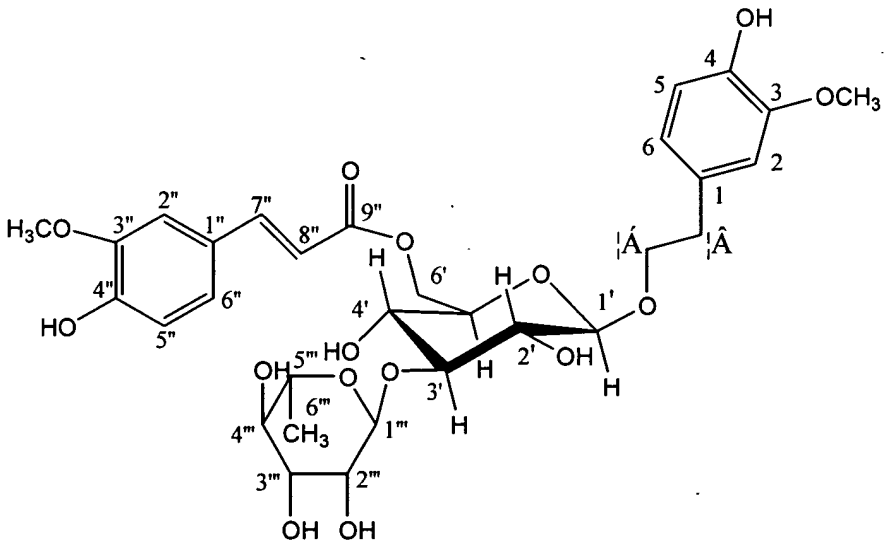
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-5 have been amended and new claims 6-18 have been added. A listing of the claims follows and replaces all prior listing of the claims.

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A compound[[,]] named epimeredinoside A having ~~with the following~~ formula I as follows: [[.]]



I

Claim 2 (Currently amended): [[A]] Oral pharmaceutics from *Epimeredi indica* root extract, ~~wherein the pharmaceutics related to any oral pharmaceutics, which is composed of extracts from~~ comprising:

Epimeredi indica root extracts comprised of from 0.10 to 1.50% by weight of epimeredinoside A which have been extracted with water and concentrated by distillation; and

at least one ~~all kinds of~~ pharmaceutical adjuvant~~; this extract is obtained from extracts of *Epimeredi indica* root after being extracted by water and concentrated by distillation; the contents of epimeredinoside A in this extract have the range from 0.10 to 1.50% according to claim 1~~.

Claim 3 (Currently amended): The oral pharmaceutics ~~Pharmaceutics~~ from *Epimeredi indica* root extract according to claim 2, wherein the oral pharmaceutics ~~mentioned are represented by any kinds of oral forms widely used in medical area~~ have any form which is used orally including hard capsule, soft capsule, granule, tablet, and oral liquid ~~and so on~~.

Claim 4 (Currently amended): A preparation method [[of the]] for preparing oral pharmaceutics from *Epimeredi indica* root extract ~~according to claim2, wherein the preparation procedures of the *Epimeredi indica* root extract are as following~~ : comprising:

making a powder of ~~1) powdering the roots of the~~ *Epimeredi indica* roots~~;, then add~~

adding water to the powder in an amount of about 10 times that of the powder ~~amount of water to extract~~ and extracting for a time ranging from 1 to 2 hours;

filtering to obtain a first filtrate and a first cake;

adding water to the first cake in an amount of about 10 times that of the first cake and extracting for a time ranging from 1 to 2 hours;

filtering to obtain a second filtrate and a second cake;

combining the first filtrate and the second filtrate to provide a combined filtrate;

concentrating the combined filtrate ~~two times,1~2 hours per time. After filtration, it was concentrated as extracta sicca~~ as *extracta sicca* to a density ranging from [[of]] 1.01 to 1.08(25~30) and a content ofepimeredinoside A ranging from 0.10 to 1.50%

as determined by HPLC;

drying the *extracta sicca* ~~, then dried~~ by spray or vacuum~~. The contents~~ of ~~epimeredinoside A in this extract are 0.10 to 1.50% by HPLC~~; and

mixing predetermined quantities of the dried extract and at least one adjuvant ~~2) mix extracts and adjuvants well in proportion~~ to prepare ~~various~~ oral pharmaceutics conventionally by one of wet or dry granulation.

Claim 5 (Currently amended): The preparation ~~Preparation~~ method ~~of the *Epimeredi indica* root extract~~ according claim 4, wherein the content ~~determination method of Epimeredinoside~~ of epimeredinoside A in the dried extract ~~extracts~~ of *Epimeredi indica* root ~~in the present invention~~ determined by HPLC comprises the ~~following~~ steps of:

a. providing (1) an HPLC apparatus, ~~1) Apparatus and Materials: Apparatus : Agilent 1100 HPLC system~~ (2) a Standard sample of[[:]] epimeredinoside A, (3) HPLC grade chemical ~~Chemical~~ reagents[[:]] incuding methanol, acetonitrile, and distilled water ~~and other reagents were HPLC grade Sample: E~~, and (4) extracts of *Epimeredi indica* root ~~(Shanghai Yaogang Biotechnology Ltd.Co.)2) Chromatographic~~

b. operating the HPLC apparatus under conditions[[:]] including (1) using a Chromatographic column: Discovery C_{18} (250mm ×4.6 mm, 5μm), (2) using a mobile ~~Mobile~~ phase[[:]] which is a mixture of acetonitrile and water having an acetonitrile: water [[=]] ratio of 27:73, (3) using a flow ~~Flow~~ rate[[:]] of 1.0ml/min, (4) using a column ~~Column~~ temperature[[:]] which is room temperature, and (5) using a detection ~~Detection~~ wavelength[[:]] of 320nm, and (6) using an injection ~~Injection~~ volume[[:]] of 20μl;

c. generating a calibration ~~3) Calibration~~ curve[[:]] by (1) preparing ~~① Preparation of~~ standard ~~stock~~ solutions of epimeredinoside A having respective concentrations ~~: The standard (4.95 mg) were weighed, dissolved, and diluted with methanol in a 25 ml volumetric flask to obtain standard stock solutions for the calibration curves; ②The Calibration Curves: The stock solution 0.4, 0.8, 1.2, 1.6, 2.0 ml were weighed, dissolved, and diluted with methanol in 2 ml volumetric flask to obtain standard solutions at the concentration~~ of 39.6 μg/ml, 79.2 μg/ml, 118.8 μg/ml, 158.4 μg/ml, and 198 μg/ml ~~respectively~~; (2) subjecting ~~a total of 20 μL of~~ each standard solution ~~was~~

~~subject~~ to HPLC quantitative analysis; (3) generating a calibration curve ~~was generated~~ to confirm ~~the~~ a linear relationship between ~~the~~ peak area ratio (Y axis) and the concentrations of the standard solutions (X axis);

~~in the test samples; the calibration curves were found to be linear and could be described by the regression equations Y=20.139 X – 154.35, with coefficience of R^2 = 0.9994; the ranges of calibration curves was 0.792 – 3.96 μg, and the retention time of epimeredinoside A was 9.55 min;~~

~~4) Sample determination~~ **~~Preparation of the standard solutions~~**~~: The standard was accurately weighed, dissolved, and diluted with methanol in a volumetric flask to obtain standard solutions; a total of 20 μL of standard solution was subject to HPLC quantitative analysis and the peak area was recorded; the contents of epimeredinoside A was calculated using the calibration curves accordingly, see Fig 2;~~

~~Preparation of the sample solutions~~~~: The extracts of *Epimeredi indica* root (176.66 mg) was ccurately weighted, and extracted with by ultrasonication at room temperature for 2 times, then centrifuged; the supernatant were combined and diluted with water in a 10 ml volumetric flask. The solution was filtered through a syringe filter (0.45 μm);~~

d. preparing test samples; and

e. subjecting the sample solutions ~~were subjected~~ to the HPLC quantitative analysis ~~as described above~~;

f. determining the content of epimeredinoside A ~~in samples were calculated according to~~ in the test samples from the calibration curves[[;]] using, as a formula for calculation, ~~is as follows:~~ Y=20.139X-154.35, where Y is ~~: value of~~ peak area and X is ~~: value of~~ sample concentration (μg/ml) ~~the contents of epimeredinoside A in sample is demonstrated as X*10/*amount of sample*100%~~.

Claim 6 (New): The preparation method according to claim 5, wherein the HPLC apparatus which is an Agilent 1100 HPLC system.

Claim 7 (New): The preparation method according to claim 5, wherein the extracts of *Epimeredi indica* root were obtained from Shanghai Yaogang Biotechnology Ltd.Co.

Claim 8 (New): The preparation method according to claim 5, wherein preparing standard solutions of epimeredinoside A is accomplished by (1) weighing 4.95 mg of epimeredinoside A, and dissolving and diluting with the methanol in a 25 ml volumetric flask to provide a standard stock solution, and (2) measuring 0.4, 0.8, 1.2, 1.6, 2.0 ml of the standard stock solution into 2 ml volumetric flasks and diluting with methanol to provide standard solutions having respective concentrations of 39.6 μg/ml, 79.2 μg/ml, 118.8 μg/ml, 158.4 μg/ml, and 198 μg/ml.

Claim 9 (New): The preparation method according to claim 5, wherein subjecting each standard solution to HPLC quantitative analysis is accomplished by using a total of 20 μL of each standard solution.

Claim 10 (New): The preparation method according to claim 5, wherein, in step (c), the calibration curves were linear and were described by a regression equation Y=20.139 X – 154.35, with coefficient R^2 = 0.9994.

Claim 11 (New): The preparation method according to claim 10, wherein the calibration curves ranged from 0.792 – 3.96 μg, and retention time of epimeredinoside A in the HPLC apparatus was 9.55 min.

Claim 12 (New): A method for determining content of epimeredinoside A in an extract of *Epimeredi indica* root using HPLC, the method comprising the steps of:

a. providing (1) an HPLC apparatus, (2) a Standard sample of epimeredinoside A, (3) HPLC grade chemical reagents incuding methanol, acetonitrile, and distilled water, and (4) extracts of *Epimeredi indica* root

b. operating the HPLC apparatus under conditions including (1) using a Chromatographic column: Discovery C_{18} (250mm ×4.6 mm, 5μm), (2) using a mobile

phase which is a mixture of acetonitrile and water having an acetonitrile: water ratio of 27:73, (3) using a flow rate of 1.0ml/min, (4) using a column temperature which is room temperature, and (5) using a detection wavelength of 320nm, and (6) using an injection volume of 20μl;

c. generating a calibration curve by (1) preparing standard solutions of epimeredinoside A having respective concentrations of 39.6 μg/ml, 79.2 μg/ml, 118.8 μg/ml, 158.4 μg/ml, and 198 μg/ml; (2) subjecting each standard solution to HPLC quantitative analysis; (3) generating a calibration curve to confirm a linear relationship between peak area ratio (Y axis) and the concentrations of the standard solutions (X axis);

d. preparing test samples; and

e. subjecting the sample solutions to the HPLC quantitative analysis;

f. determining the content of epimeredinoside A in the test samples from the calibration curves using, as a formula for calculation, Y=20.139X-154.35, where Y is peak area and X is sample concentration (μg/ml).

Claim 13 (New): The preparation method according to claim 12, wherein the HPLC apparatus which is an Agilent 1100 HPLC system.

Claim 14 (New): The preparation method according to claim 12, wherein the extracts of *Epimeredi indica* root were obtained from Shanghai Yaogang Biotechnology Ltd.Co.

Claim 15 (New): The preparation method according to claim 12, wherein preparing standard solutions of epimeredinoside A is accomplished by (1) weighing 4.95 mg of epimeredinoside A, and dissolving and diluting with the methanol in a 25 ml volumetric flask to provide a standard stock solution, and (2) measuring 0.4, 0.8, 1.2, 1.6, 2.0 ml of the standard stock solution into 2 ml volumetric flasks and diluting with methanol to provide standard solutions having respective concentrations of 39.6 μg/ml, 79.2 μg/ml, 118.8 μg/ml, 158.4 μg/ml, and 198 μg/ml.

Claim 16 (New): The preparation method according to claim 12, wherein subjecting each standard solution to HPLC quantitative analysis is accomplished by using a total of 20 μL of each standard solution.

Claim 17 (New): The preparation method according to claim 12, wherein, in step (c), the calibration curves were linear and were described by a regression equation $Y=20.139\ X - 154.35$, with coefficient $R^2 = 0.9994$.

Claim 18 (New): The preparation method according to claim 17, wherein the calibration curves ranged from 0.792 – 3.96 μg, and retention time of epimeredinoside A in the HPLC apparatus was 9.55 min.